

# MANTI-LA SAL NATIONAL FOREST PLAN REVISION



## Talking Points Collaborative Mapping Tool: How-To Guide

The Manti-La Sal National Forest is using a collaborative mapping tool called *Talking Points* as a method to collect comments from the public. *Talking Points* enables users to leave comments on a map of the forest for concurrent analyses such as the Wilderness Evaluation process and the Scenery Management System. Users can draw shapes, drop points, or lines over a location on the forest and leave a comment associated with that shape, point, or line. This tool can also be used to identify potential data gaps. Users can also upload files—including photographs—to provide supporting documentation to their comments.

Not all concurrent processes during the forest plan revision effort have an associated *Talking Points* application. Any concurrent analysis that uses *Talking Points* to receive comments will have a link to the application on its subpage located on the Manti-La Sal Forest Planning page. Visit the following link to view concurrent analyses:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning>

### Important Note:

The comments and replies entered into *Talking Points* are viewable by the general public. Others may view and respond to any comment that is entered. To protect your privacy, contact information is NOT shown publicly, and is only used by the Forest Service for follow-up to a comment.

Please, if you are entering a comment or replying to a comment, input contact information in the fields provided for that purpose. This includes name, email address, mailing address, and phone number. Following this procedure ensures your comment will be seen by others, though you will remain anonymous. Do not put your name or any other personal information in the body of the comment or reply message.

### Adding a Comment to the Map

Each of the 3 tabs on the right-hand side of the application corresponds to a particular type of geometry you can draw:

1. Comment on Site allows you to draw a point and comment
2. Comment on Corridor allows you to draw a line and comment
3. Comment on Area allows you to draw a polygon and comment

To leave a comment, click one of the comment tabs. This will load the corresponding map and display existing comments.

Next, click on '**Submit a Report**'. This will bring up the Comment Form to fill out. The comment field and the category field are required. Zoom and pan around the map to find the location which you wish to comment on.



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Click the map at the proper location to leave a point line or polygon. Double-click at the end of a line or polygon to finish it.

Scroll to the bottom of the form and hit '**Report It**' to add your comment.

## Viewing Map Comments and Replying to a Comment

When clicking to comment on a site, corridor or area, it will also display existing comments. You can view and reply the existing comments by clicking on them, or click the '**Click to Comment**' button at the bottom. This will bring up the comment form. Fill out the form normally. Your reply will be added to the conversation.

## Map and Browser Display Controls

-  Clicking on the  icon, located in the upper left section of the map, will display the extent of the Manti-La Sal national forest in the browser window.
-  To move the area displayed in the map, click and drag using your mouse to pan across the map. You can then pan the map in any direction, zoom in (+), or zoom out (-).
-  To search for a specific location, click on the  Icon.
-  To zoom to your location, click on the  Icon
-  For additional help, click on the question mark  located in the upper right section of the map.

## Need Further Guidance on How to Use *Talking Points*?

Contact the Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan Revision Team at [mlnfplanrevision@fs.fed.us](mailto:mlnfplanrevision@fs.fed.us), 435-636-3508, or visit our office at 599 West Price River Drive, Price, Utah 84501.

